

The 2016 award recipients include:

Community Service: Sandra Harp accepting on behalf of Heidi Miller



Heidi Miller has dedicated her life to adopting and fostering children. But she and her family also volunteer and raise money for a new facility in central Kentucky that will house teenage foster boys. The facility will not only give the boys a home to live in and return to when they need guidance, it will also provide them with resources to realize brighter futures.

Professional Achievement



Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney Sheryl E. Heeter has been a staunch advocate for child victims of crime since 1999. She has worked tirelessly throughout her career and has made it her mission to prosecute child predators and abusers. She has also spent many years as a Guardian Ad Litem in the Family Court System and regularly serves on a multi-disciplinary team for child abuse where an inter-professional team discusses child abuse incidents in the county. Despite the horrific and emotionally taxing details that surround her cases, Sheryl stays the course in her advocacy for children.

Customer Service



Greg Waddle works at the front desk of the Lincoln County Department for Community Based Services. He provides exemplary customer service to staff as well as clients, and consistently delivers a high level of compassion in the course of his work. In a job that deals with some of the most traumatic abuses of children, where caseloads are challenging, clients are often unhappy and stress can be at a maximum, Greg still brightens everyone's day with his enthusiasm, empathy and encouraging demeanor.

Courage



Conservation educator Clay Brummal came upon a mangled car just minutes after its driver lost control and crashed. He ran to the vehicle and found the driver badly injured, bleeding and unconscious. As flames began to rise from the engine, Clay knew the driver needed to be removed from the car. With the help of two other motorists, he pulled the driver up through the window and out to safety, just moments before the car was engulfed with flames. The driver was air-lifted to the hospital, and fully recovered.

Leadership



Kathy Moreland has been a Department of Revenue employee for 30 years. During her career, she has worked hard, always looking for learning opportunities. She isn't afraid to accept assignments that took her beyond her comfort zone, and has earned the lasting respect of her co-workers and management. Just a few of the things she has accomplished since returning to state government include getting her division moved to one floor so they could work together as a team. She changed procedures for speedier processing and greater efficiency. In addition to establishing wellness breaks for the division, she has organized several staff activities to promote personal and professional employee improvement.

Teamwork



During the past year, the Kentucky Emergency Management Assistance Team has managed \$5.6 million in grant funds. These funds have improved the county EMA programs, enhanced public safety, and increased emergency response across the Commonwealth. The length of time required to process a claim for reimbursement to the counties has decreased from three months to one day. For the first time in 17 years, the Emergency Management Assistance Team was able to provide counties with an additional \$550,000 in special project funds to enhance their EMA programs.